

The Journal of the History and Archives Committee of Christ Church, Elbow Park

**SPECIAL ISSUE ON THE CHANGE-RINGING
BELLS OF CHRIST CHURCH**

Vol. 1 Issue 1, 2019



This journal will publish longer articles about the history of Christ Church, Elbow Park and its parishioners. It will come out twice a year and tend to focus on a single theme, with both academic and non-academic dimensions. However, from time to time it may also undertake longer academic analyses on historical issues that faced the Anglican Church of Canada, the Diocese and the Parish. It may also publish finding aids to the parish archives, series of documents and/or inventories of artefacts in the possession of the parish. All articles will be reviewed by members of the Archives and History Committee, and where appropriate sent out for peer review. Please send articles, or suggestions for articles and comments to the Editor, History and Archives Committee Journal, Christ Church, Calgary.

In 2018-2019 the History and Archives Committee, Christ Church, Elbow Park membership included: Betty Craigie, Bruce Duplessis, Catherine Evamy, Blane Hogue, Gwyn Langemann, John Mendham, Frits Pannekoek (Chair), Rev. David Pickett, Pat Roome, and Fred Valentine.

This special issue based on an unpublished 2018 manuscript by Ann Williams with her support and permission.

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Sources for this Issue:

St. Michael's the story of our church and its people by Gerald W. Hankins pub.

The Parish Chest by W.E. Tate pub. 1946

Discovering Bells and Bellringing by John Camp 3rd ed. 1988 pub. Shire Publications Ltd.

Loughborough Foundry records

Christ Church Bellringers' Scrapbook, Visitors Books & Peal Book

Christ Church Archives

¹These articles are largely derived from an earlier manuscript made available by Ann Williams. The History and Archives Committee of Christ Church, Elbow Park is grateful to her for allowing us to adapt this for a more general audience.

THE CHANGE-RINGING BELLS OF CHRIST CHURCH

Ann Williams

The Original Christ Church Bell (now in Canmore)



Christ Church before the 1954 renovations. A single bell hangs in the turret

PHOTO CREDIT: Christ Church Archives



The original Calgary bell
- a bell designed to swing

PHOTO CREDIT:
Geoff Williams



A change-ringing bell rotates through more than 360° producing a richer sound

BELLFOUNDERS DIAGRAM:
Christ Church Archives

A steel church bell cast by the C.S. Bell Co. of Hillsbro, Ohio was installed in the Christ Church bell turret in the summer of 1926. The bell was never satisfactory, degenerating from “requiring adjustment” to being referred to as the “old crooked bell”. By March of 1927 the manufacturer had agreed to replace the bell free of charge and Calgary contractors, Cawston & Tweddle, replaced it (also free of charge), using the yoke, wheel and “A frames” of the original bell. The inscription inside the replacement bell reads “12 7 26” signifying that it was cast on December 7, 1926.

**One Bell, Three Homes
1927-1955 (Christ Church, Elbow Park)**

After 28 years of ringing out over Elbow Park, in 1955 Christ Church donated its bell to St. Michael's and All Angels in Calgary.

1956-2003 (St. Michael and All Angels, Calgary)



The Christ Church bell at its Canmore location –
still attached to its original yoke and wheel
PHOTO CREDIT: Geoff Williams

In 1956 St. Michael's decided to construct a new belfry and spire for the bell donated by Christ Church. Below this structure would be a new entrance and cloak room which were dedicated on February 16, 1958.

2003-present (St. Michael's, Canmore)

On January 18, 2003 the bell was removed from St. Michael & All Angels before it was demolished for the widening of 16th Avenue. The bell was loaded onto a truck and driven to St. Michael's, Canmore where it is now housed outside the church in a free-standing tower designed by Sveinn Sigurson, an architect, parishioner of Christ Church and weekend member of St. Michael's, Canmore.

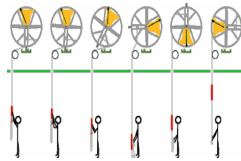
History of Church Bells in England

The sound of church bells has been a background to the lives of the people of England since Saxon times. One of the oldest bells still in use was cast about 1450 and is in the church of St. Mary's, Stoke D'Abernon, Surrey.

Development of Change Ringing Bells as an Anglican Tradition

On Henry VIII's break with Rome (1531), bells became an Anglican tradition. Initially bells hung mouth down in their towers and went "ding" when they were struck. But in England by the 1500s thought was being given to making bells controllable (each bell having its own ringer) and making them swing to make a louder, richer sound.

It could be said that Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries (1536-1541) had the unintended consequence of aiding in the development of change-ringing for, with monastery bells being moved into parish churches, experiments were taking place and bells attached to wheels of various sizes. The final design saw bells attached to whole wheels. This development was only made in the British Isles. In Europe bells generally still jangle uncontrollably.



Drawing courtesy The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

Once bells became controllable ringing societies were formed to encourage and teach change-ringing. The oldest societies still in existence are: The Company of Ringers of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lincoln (1612) and the Ancient Society of College Youths (1637). The first "how to" book on change-ringing was published in 1668.

The Mechanics of Change-Ringing Bells

(Based on Mike Simpson's write-up of the bells)

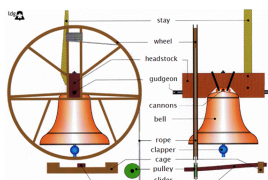


Diagram courtesy the website of the Leicester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers

Change-ringing bells are hung in a frame with each bell mounted on a headstock that allows it to swing slightly more than a complete revolution, from mouth up inclined slightly to one side (its resting position) to mouth up inclined the opposite side. Attached to the headstock is a large wooden wheel with a grooved rim. A rope runs round the wheel and over a pulley, which directs its path through the floor and into the ringing chamber two floors below. The long wooden post attached to the bell is a “stay” and it turns with the bell.

With the bell mouth up, the ringer pulls the rope at “handstroke,” the bell swings downward and its momentum carries it full circle, taking a few feet of rope with it, until the stay gently connects with the metal slider under the bell causing the bell to pause. The ringer pulls again at “backstroke,” the bell swings once more as it (and the rope) return to their original positions, the clapper striking the inside of the bell at each rotation.

If the bell is pulled too hard, the stay will break as it smashes into the slider and the bell, rather than continuing to rotate, will simply swing until its momentum is lost and it safely hangs mouth down.



Calgary ringers ready to pull off at handstroke.
PHOTO CREDIT: Bellringers' Archives

To set the bells ringing, the ringer of the treble will say “LOOK TO” (making sure everyone is ready to ring) “TREBLE’S GOING” (beginning to pull the treble off balance) and “TREBLE’S GONE” or “SHE’S GONE” (as the treble comes off balance and is in the control of the ringer), the other bells fall in behind the treble in a series of rounds (1-2-3-4-5-6 etc.) until the speed of the ringing (the gap between the bells sounding) is established.

“Half of the bells swing in an east-west direction; half in a north-south direction. As the bells ring, considerable forces are applied through the frame to the tower structure causing the tower to sway. The motion can be felt in the ringing chamber and is quite normal.”

(John Clarke’s write up of the bells)

With bellringers having a degree of control over their bells, ringers explored the possibilities and found that, because of their weight, this type of bell can only do one of two things: switch places with the bell next to it in the ringing order or remain in the same place in the ringing order. Thus, in all change-ringing towers, the bells can be heard ringing these patterns:

Rounds: Sequential ringing of the bells starting with the treble (the highest note) and finishing with the tenor (the lowest note) in the ringing order 1-2-3-4-5-6 etc. All ringing begins and ends with rounds.

Call Changes: With the bells ringing rounds, if the conductor says “5 to 3”, at the next hand-stroke, bell 5 will follow bell 3, bell 4 pausing briefly to allow bell 5 to ring in front of it. The ringing order changes from: 1-2-3-4-5 to 1-2-3-5-4. Bell 5 is following bell 3. The bells continue to ring in the new ringing order until the conductor calls another change.

Plain Hunting – the basic form of change-ringing: The bells ring rounds until the conductor says “Go Plain Hunting”. At the next hand stroke, each bell switches places with the bell next to it in the ringing order, unless the bell is leading or in the last place, in which case it will ring twice in the same place. The ringing order (on four bells) will look like this:

1-2-3-4	rounds
2-1-4-3	bells switched places with their neighbouring bell
2-4-1-3	the 2 led twice, other bells switched
4-2-3-1	same pattern of switching and leading twice continues
4-3-2-1	
3-4-1-2	
3-1-4-2	
1-3-2-4	
1-2-3-4	the bells have returned to rounds

If this begins to sound daunting, there are many clues, tips and tricks the ringer will learn (from books or from other ringers) to enable them to successfully and enjoyably “ring the changes”.

To extend the time it takes to return to rounds, “dodging” and “making places” were added to plain hunting and each pattern named a specific method so that ringers worldwide can bring to mind (or easily find) the rules that govern the ringing of a particular method.

Uses for Church Bells

Of course, Church bells are primarily rung before services to call people to worship.

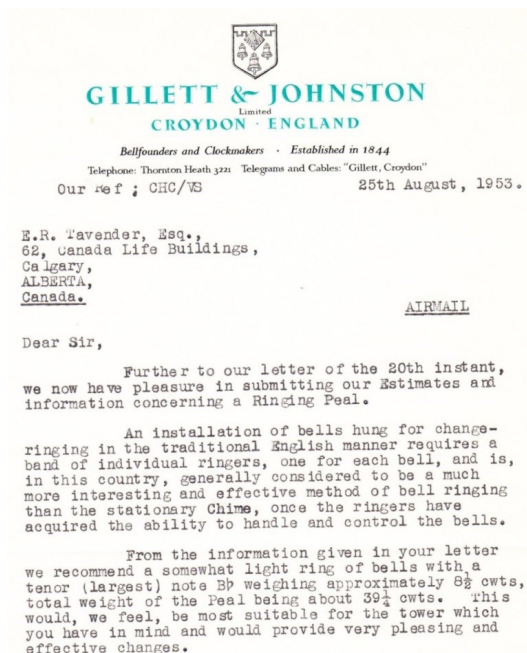
In 1552 Bishop Latimer remarked on the ease with which the population could be warned in the event of an invasion: “If all the bells in England were rung at one time there would scarcely be a single spot where a bell would not be heard.” And the use of bells to spread warnings continued until 1940 when church bells were only to be rung on the sighting of an invasion force.

Church bells also announced the deaths of parishioners by tolling (ringing single strokes): nine tolls for a man or six for a woman, a brief pause and then a number equal to the age of the deceased. The practice was commonly referred to as ringing the Nine Tailors – tailors being a corruption of “tollers.”

Bells also rang (and still do) for secular events. Indeed, early churchwardens’ accounts record payments (and ale) given to bellringers for ringing to celebrate various royal events. The accounts for Wootton St. Lawrence, Hampshire have a 1612 entry “For not ringing when the Queen came by 4 shillings” indicating the parish was fined for not welcoming Queen Elizabeth I with bells. Ringers were also paid to celebrate success at the Battle of Flodden [1513], failure of the Wyatt Revolt [1554], defeat of the Spanish Armada [1588], failure of the plot to blow up Parliament [1605], for the Civil War Battles of Edgehill [1642] and Worcester [1651], the installation of Oliver Cromwell [1657] and the Restoration of the Monarchy [1660].

The Acquisition of Change-Ringing Bells for Christ Church

In 1953 Christ Church parishioner Edward R. (Ted) Tavender requested Gillett & Johnston (G&J), bell-founders of Croydon, England (who cast the bells for the Ottawa Peace Tower) for their recommendations and estimates for a ring of bells for Christ Church. Here are extracts from their response:



The letter continues: “We note that the proposed tower is designed to carry a dead load of 15 tons and we are inclined to think that this should be somewhat strengthened. The maximum force exerted by ringing bells in full swing is approximately four times their own weight, but it must be remembered that the load is oscillating and allowing the normal safety factor it would be wise to consider a total dead load of something like 30 to 35 tons, as the maximum thrust is downwards in an almost vertical direction. The horizontal thrust may be taken as roughly half this amount.

We trust that the above information will be of assistance to you and look forward with great pleasure to the time when changes will ring in Calgary, as they do in the old villages in England.”

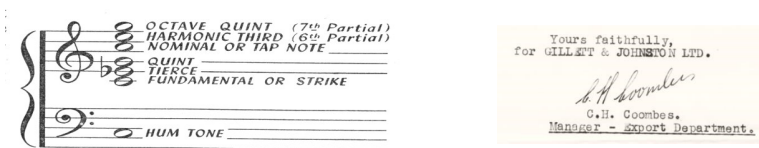


Diagram from Bell Founding, a G&J publication

G&J’s estimate included tuning the bells on their 5-Tone harmonic principle, with the hum-note (octave below the strike note), nominal (octave above), tierce (third) and quint (fifth) in correct tune with the strike note, and each bell as a whole to be in accurate tune with the remainder of the ring.

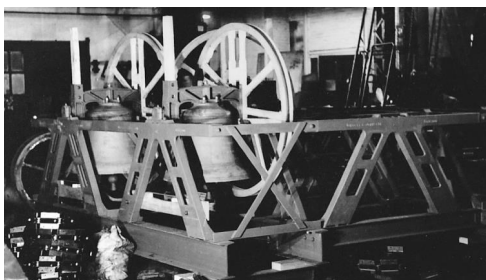
With facts and figures to hand, Mr. Tavender proposed that Christ Church build a tower and obtain a ring of English-type change-ringing bells. Some wished for a carillon, but supported by Canon Crump he pushed for real English bells. The idea was approved at a Building Committee meeting on January 6, 1954, provided sufficient funds were donated for the bells. The following August, Canon Crump wrote in the Church Bulletin: “Since this parish is so greatly honored by a visit from the spiritual head of our great Worldwide communion [The Archbishop of Canterbury was coming to lay the foundation stone], the vestry feel his visit should be marked by starting a fund to purchase a bell for the new tower. Over the next few years, we expect parishioners will give, as memorials, enough bells to form a complete peal”.

Boats, Trains and Trucks

Mr. Tavender was treasurer of the Bell Fund and, as donations came in, he placed orders with G&J, resulting in the bells arriving in three shipments, each shipment taking three or four months to reach Calgary. They were trucked from the bell founders to the London docks, sailed through the Panama Canal to Vancouver, rode a CP train from Vancouver to Calgary and were finally trucked to Christ Church.

The First Shipment

In the fall of 1954 an order was placed with G&J for bells 6, 7 & 8 plus a steel frame for eight bells. The bells arrived at Christ Church on June 24, 1955 and remained at the back of the church until the Rector, Canon W.H. Crump dedicated them on June 26th. Long-time G&J employee, John (Jack) Nicolls came from Croydon to install the frame and bells.



Calgary bells set up in their frame at the Gillett & Johnston bellfoundry
PHOTO CREDIT: Christ Church Archives

Mr. Nicolls finished the installation work by July 5, 1955 and then gave three bell-handling sessions to parishioners E.R. (Ted) Tavender (who could only attend one session), Col. John Tidswell, Dr. Hal Worrall, Dr. Kathleen (Kay) Worrall, Col. Doug Harkness and John Burns.

On July 7th, probably his last day in Calgary, Mr. Nicolls signed a brick on the interior wall of the ringing chamber "J Nicolls Croydon England 7-7-1955."

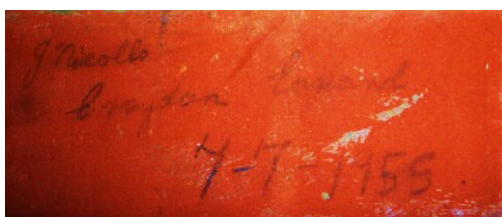


PHOTO CREDIT: Robyn Williams

The following Sunday the three bells rang for half an hour before the 11 a.m. service. Mr. Tavender's diary notes that the bells "sounded wonderful".

The invoice for the 1st shipment totalled \$5,130.32 (\$48,304.49 in 2018 dollars)

Bells 6, 7 & 8 with framework for eight bells, insurance & ocean freight	\$4,246.00
CP freight Vancouver-Calgary	337.10
Pacific Cartage Co. – transportation, probably in Vancouver	22.00
Installation of bells and framework	335.84
Extra bell stays	24.18
Handbells, muffles and stays	165.20
TOTAL	\$5,130.32

Bells 6, 7, & 8 are the only Calgary bells cast by G&J and inscribed with their crest



The Second Shipment

On December 1, 1955 an order was placed with G&J for bells 3, 4 & 5. On receipt of the order G&J (who were scaling back their operations) contracted with John Taylor & Co. (“Taylors”) bell foundry of Loughborough, Leicestershire to cast the bells and ship them to G&J for tuning. Taylors invoiced G&J directly for “Three bells for Christ Church Elbow Park, Calgary, Alberta ordered by Gillett & Johnston on 14 December 1955.”

The Calgary Herald of Saturday, July 7, 1956 advised that the bells had arrived and were on view in the vestibule of Christ Church where they would be dedicated on July 8th by the Rector, Canon Crump, and placed in the tower the following week. Poole Construction Co. Ltd. of Calgary installed them and above the ringing chamber brick signed “J. Nicolls” is a brick signed “E. Pearl.” Edward Pearl was an employee of Poole Construction Co. Ltd..

Christ Church now had six bells hanging in its tower and they rang together for the first time on Sunday July 22, 1956, Mr. Tavender writing in his diary: “The bellringers were not perfect but the bells still sounded wonderful and the six bellringers had much fun”.



The Third Shipment

In December of 1956 the final two bells were ordered. The bells arrived in Calgary on August 1st and were dedicated by the Right Rev. G.R. Calvert, Bishop of Calgary, on August 11, 1957.

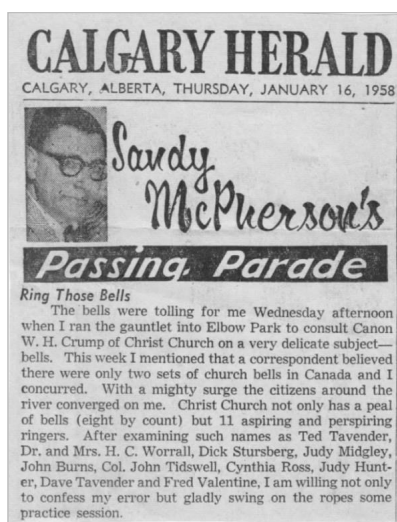
Bishop Calvert in the foreground, Canon Crump behind
PHOTO CREDIT: Calgary Herald Aug 12, 1957

Buying the bells was easy – the hard part was about to begin. And the hard part continues at Christ Church to this day, a typical North American challenge: how to transplant a bit of old-world culture to the new West without the supporting centuries-old tradition.

From "Peals and Changes" by Louise Bresky, pub. Calgary Magazine Feb. 1982

A glimpse into the Calgary ringing chamber in 1957 is given in an article published in *The Ringing World* (a weekly magazine for bellringers) of November 8, 1957:

- In 1956 they found Mr. F.C. Papworth - who had rung in England but had not handled a bell for over 50 years. He was nevertheless able to teach new ringers and was of great assistance.
- Early in 1957 Jeff White (then of Edmonton) began driving the 200 miles to Calgary every two or three weeks to assist the band. On his first visit he found the Calgary group ringing rounds so slowly on their six bells that the ringers were practically setting their bells on each stroke. With Jeff White's help they were ringing rounds like experts and making good progress in change-ringing.
- In the spring of 1957 English nurse Judy Midgley, of Lacombe, found the Calgary group and joins them whenever she can get a ride the 125 miles to Calgary. Fortunately she is moving to one of the large Calgary hospitals and will join the group on a regular basis.



On January 16, 1958 The Calgary Herald named 11 bellringers.
PHOTO CREDIT: Christ Church Archives

In 1963 English ringers Mike & Pat Simpson joined the band. Mike became Tower Captain and taught with good nature and humour. He was missed when his work took him to Edmonton.

In the 1970s the bellringers used Mike's handbells on Christmas mornings to ring carols before the 11 a.m. service. The handbells accompanying the organ and congregation in the opening hymn, O Come, All Ye Faithful, everyone singing and ringing with extra vigour the first line of the final verse:

“Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning”



The Thames & Ganges Restaurant, Calgary 1987

Mike Simpson on the right – to his right are Val Cole and Ruth Lund, opposite are Do Dyer, Andrew Bushell & Stephen Brown PHOTO CREDIT: Bellringers' Archives

Comments on Change-Ringing at Christ Church

- ✓ “I also want to say, for the record, how much the efforts of the bellringers are appreciated. I realize that, all too often your efforts go unrecognized and that it may seem that everyone is taking the bellringers totally for granted. I want to say that this is not the case and that all of us are continually impressed by your devotion to your skill and derive a great deal of comfort from the ongoing presence of the bells. The bells at Christ Church are very much a part of our collective heritage. Please accept our best wishes for your continued success and future growth”. (Forbes Newman, Peoples' Warden, October 15, 1987)
- ✓ “I want to thank all the current campanologists at Christ Church. I appreciate the time and skill required to get to the stage of ringing quarter peals and more, since I learned the basics when I was a teenager in Ireland. Bells were a call to worship before there were watches on everyone's wrists. Now, they heighten the anticipation of celebration and praise, that is part of our worship”. (Rev. William P. Pike, Rector of Christ Church, 2002)

- ✓ On the ringers' part, they said in an Annual Report "We thank everyone for their positive comments and support. Our bells are unique and it is a privilege to be able to ring them."

From the Bellringers' Visitors Book, September 9, 2005:

"Joan & Richard Cochrane of Kamloops, B.C. Handbell ringers that heard the beautiful bells from the river and followed our ears and hearts here. Thank you!"

2017 Bellringers: John Lund, Ruth Lund, Paul Brown, James Hamilton, Eric Bumstead, Geoff Williams, Ann Williams, John Musselwhite and Lindsey Holman (Missing Robyn Williams and Guy Copeland)

PHOTO CREDIT: Geoff Williams



Highlights of Ringing in Calgary

- ❖ 1957 September 8: All 8 change-ringing bells rung together for the first time.
- ❖ 1964 March 29: First quarter peal on the bells 1260 Grandsire Doubles in 41 minutes

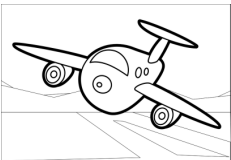
E.R. Tavender	(Treble)	W.E. Court (Visitor from the UK)	(4)
Patricia A. Simpson	(2)	J. Michael Simpson (Conductor)	(5)
Judy M. Midgley	(3)		
- ❖ 1966 April 23: First peal on the bells 5040 Plain Bob & Grandsire Doubles in 2 hrs 27 minutes

Peter H Mackie	(Treble)	Christopher J. Groome	(4)
Patricia Laycock	(2)	J. Michael Simpson (Conductor)	(5)
Judy M. Midgley	(3)	John A Musselwhite	(6)
- ❖ 1968 August 3: First quarter peal on 8 bells - 1216 Plain Bob Major

Sally Luttrell (Vancouver)	(Treble)	Judy M. Midgley	(5)
John Hallett (Vancouver)	(2)	Jeff White (Vancouver)	(6)
Wendy Foster	(3)	Patricia John	(7)
Margaret Wheat (Vancouver)	(4)	J. Michael Simpson (Conductor)	(8)

Four of the quarter peal ringers had flown in from Vancouver and had a hair raising return trip. The weather deteriorated shortly after take-off and the pilot, Jeff White, decided to take the southern route over the mountains. Unfortunately this did not solve their weather problems and,

as the cloud base had descended below the level of the Allison Pass, the plane was forced to land on a small airstrip at Towers Ranch, just east of the Pass. Jeff knew of this strip, but not that it had been closed for about three years and contractors were in the process of turning it into a housing development. The surface was very rough and it was shorter than it used to be. However, landing was accomplished without mishap and they obtained lodging at a nearby motel. Next morning it was discovered that the runway was too short for the plane to take off with a full load. So, the ladies (carrying the luggage) hitchhiked back to Vancouver, leaving the men to fly back when the weather cleared. The ladies arrived back in Vancouver long before the flyers. (Mike Simpson's article published in The Clapper).



- ❖ 1969 February 23: First quarter peal by a local band - 1260 Grandsire Doubles

Wendy Foster	(Treble)	Patricia John	(4)
Judy M. Midgley	(2)	J. Michael Simpson (Conductor)	(5)
Rev F.H.W. Crabb	(3)	E.R. Tavender	(6)

- ❖ 1974 Aug 30-Sep 2: North American Guild of Change Ringers (NAG) AGM in Calgary. Delegates came from all over Canada and the U.S., a good number taking up the Church's offer to sleep on cots or in sleeping bags in the Church hall and to use the kitchen.



Jeff White is on the left in this photo of the peal band.

PHOTO CREDIT: Bellringers' Archives

There was ringing from 6–9 p.m. on the Friday (with a break for a wedding in the Church). Ringing continued on the Saturday (with two breaks for weddings). The Church was very supportive of the visit and the Sunday bulletin noted “It is most APPEALing for us to welcome in a reSOUNDing way those bellringers attending the North American Guild of Change Ringers’ gathering here at Christ Church this weekend. While we do not feel we were in any way ROPEd into hosting our guests, we do recognize that, as one of the few ringing TOWERS in Canada, it is our place to host them and we spare no QUARTER to offer our best Western Canadian METHOD of hospitality. We rejoice in the increased activity in the BELFRY this weekend, and we trust everyone has a GRAND time.”

- ❖ 1979: Installation of a new heating system for the church left the uninsulated ringing chamber with no source of heat
- ❖ 1982 April 25: Commissioning of the Bellringers during morning service
- ❖ 1983 April: The ringers adopted the name Christ Church Guild of Bellringers
- ❖ Early 1980s John Musselwhite, Ruth Lund, Andrew Bushell and John Lund ringing Andrew's handbells in the traditional English way, with two bells in each hand



Also in the 1980s the Bellringers' display for Homecoming Sunday



Ann Williams, Ruth Lund, (children Mike & Robyn Williams & Heidi Lund)
John Musselwhite, Andrew Bushell and John Lund PHOTO CREDITS: Bellringers' Archives

- ❖ 1983 NAG AGM in Calgary: Four quarter peals were rung over the weekend. Visiting ringers were offered accommodation with the Christ Church ringers and parishioners.

❖ 1988 Christmas Concert in the basement of Christ Church



Stephen Brown, Ann Williams, Steve Smythe, Windsor Viney, Do Dyer, Andrew Bushell & John Musselwhite ringing methods on bottles. Note the cold weather gear, the Ringing Chamber was still not insulated PHOTO CREDIT: Bellringers' Archives

- ❖ 1993 NAG AGM: About 46 ringers attended: 28 from the U.S., 11 from other parts of Canada, 6 from England and 1 from Australia. Visiting ringers were offered accommodation with the Christ Church ringers and parishioners. On the social side, Beverley Bushell, with the help of volunteers from the church, organized a dinner at Heritage Park and a Stampede-style BBQ on the church lawn.

- ❖ 1994: The Ringing Chamber was insulated.

- ❖ 1999 August: Wedding of John & Christine Clarke's daughter Jane

Andrew Bushell, Steve Hansen Smythe, Edgar Hulatt, Sarah Wilson, Chris Clarke, Lindsey Holman, an English ringer (Jane's Godfather) & John Clarke

PHOTO CREDIT: Bellringers' Archives



- ❖ 1999 Edgar Hulatt, John and Chris Clarke organized a bellringing course through the Calgary Board of Education.
- ❖ 1999 Nov 14: Reception in the Crump room to honour bellringers past and present and to make a presentation to Judge E. R. Tavender.
- ❖ 2000 March 18: 1344 Plain Bob Major in memory of Michael Simpson 1929-2000.

Peter Munns (Vancouver)	(Treble)	Alan Ellis (Conductor)	(5)
Sarah Beukema (Vancouver)	(2)	Andrew Bushell	(6)
Eve Munns (Vancouver)	(3)	John Musselwhite	(7)
Jeff White (Vancouver)	(4)	Stephen Hansen Smythe	(8)

- ❖ 2000 August 10: Ringers from Vancouver and Victoria joined us to ring for the funeral of E.R. (Ted) Tavender
- ❖ 2001 October 11: Calgary ringers held a striking competition. Two teams of six rang rounds (Ann & Dan were in both teams to make up the numbers) while Andrew Bushell judged from a vehicle outside. The second-place team was Ann Williams, Dan McCowan, Geoff Williams, Paul Brown, Elwyn Brown & Steve Hansen Smythe



The winning team: Ann Williams, Robyn Williams, Dan McCowan, Lindsey Holman & Shona Rochefort (missing Monique Beaumont)

PHOTO CREDIT: Bellringers' Archives

- ❖ 2005 July 5-10: 50th Anniversary of the installation of the first three bells. The organizing Committee included parishioners Nancy Munro-Parry (Chair), Darlene Bumstead, Shirley Cumming (Vestry), Helen Cusworth, Lynn Forbes, David Fulton (Press Liaison), Kay Grove (Historian), Shirley Lawrie, Susan McCowan (Registrar), Gillian McNicholas, Rodney Muir, Sue Petch, Pat Robert, Gene Tarry and Bill Taylor (Vestry). Events included:

- o Quarter peal rung in 50 minutes, each minute representing one year of ringing

Jeff White (Conductor)	(Treble)	Robyn Williams	(4)
Ruth Lund	(2)	Dan McCowan	(5)
Anthony W. Appleton	(3)	Shona Rochefort	(6)

- o Re-enactment of first bell-handling lesson: six volunteers: Rev. Ansley Tucker, Michael Williams, Sue Johnsen, Gwen Jerabek and Gillian McNicholas were given a 2½ hour bell-handling lesson by Robyn Williams ending, in true beginner fashion, with a broken stay.



Very Rev. Ansley Tucker

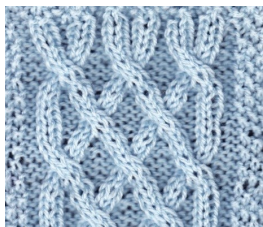
PHOTO CREDIT: Lloyd Wilson

- o Anniversary party and dinner. Invitations sent to: Clergy: Ansley Tucker, Roy Darcus, John & Laurel Buck and Kersi & John Bird. Past Clergy: William & Mary Pike, Pat & Barry Curtis, Herb & Paula O'Driscoll, Bob & Judy Griffiths. Wardens & Vestry Ted Carruthers. Susan O'Brien, Barb Luhowy and Bill Taylor. Descendants of original ringers: Kay Grove & David Tavender, John Grove, Ted Grove, Ian Grove and Kate Tavender and Andrew Tavender (Ted Tavender's children and grandchildren), Connie Hill & Joan Papworth (Mr. Papworth's daughters) and Mike Tidswell (Col Tidswell's grandson).
- o Birthday party on the Church lawn. Nearly 300 people gathered for Beef-on-a-Bun (catered by the Rotary Club) and several birthday cakes. The Shriners demonstrated balloon art and there were Celtic and Jazz bands. David Tavender was MC. and Premier Ralph Klein spoke to the crowd with elegance and humour before watching a demonstration of ringing.



Geoff Williams, Shona Rochefort, Lindsey Holman, Jeff White from Vancouver,
Robyn Williams, Dan McCowan, Monique Beaumont and Ruth Lund
PHOTO CREDIT: Lloyd Wilson

- o The three bells, 6, 7 & 8 were rung for half an hour before the service on the Sunday.
- ❖ 2013 January: Rung for the re-enactment of the first service at Christ Church in 1913. The bells (only dating from 1955) should have been silent, a detail the Rector wished overlooked.
- ❖ 2014 June: Bells silent for a couple of weeks when the Elbow River over-flowed its banks inundating the community of Elbow Park and closing roads into the area. Christ Church was not flooded but provided the community with hot meals, bathroom facilities, a place to charge cell phones etc.
- ❖ 2017 The bells tolled the Nine Tailors for the funeral of Andrew Robson who, after a service in the church, had a committal service in the Memorial Garden. The tolling began while the congregation walked from the church to the garden.



A "Plain Bob Minor" Scarf
PHOTO CREDIT:
Ann Williams

- ❖ 2017 September 17: Blessing of new bell ropes by Rev. David Pickett at 10:30 a.m. service.
- ❖ 2017 (Christmas): Ruth Lund knitted "Bell Method Scarves" Christmas presents for the ringers.
- ❖ 2018 November 11 – John and Ruth Lund tolled the tenor 100 times in response to the following appeal:

Bellringers, your country needs you for WWI centenary

The British and German governments are calling for church, military and other bells to ring out across the world in unison to mark the moment that the guns of WW1 fell silent in 1918

Change-Ringing Bells Worldwide

Currently England has about 5,500 sets of change-ringing bells. The numbers for other countries are: Wales (184), Australia (61), USA (48), Ireland (36), Scotland (22), South Africa (10), New Zealand (8), Canada (7), Zimbabwe (2), India (1) and Belgium (1).

Having change-ringing bells puts Calgary in very good company. These are the other Canadian sets of change-ringing bells:

- Holy Trinity Cathedral, Quebec City (8 bells dating from 1830)
- St. Matthew's, Quebec City (8 bells installed 1885). Now the Succursale Saint-Jean-Baptiste of the Bibliothèque de Québec
- Holy Rosary Cathedral, Vancouver. Originally seven un-tuned bells named for the seven sacraments. They were cast in Savoy, France and shipped across China and the Pacific Ocean to Vancouver in 1900. After a few years they were sent to an English bell foundry near Bristol where some were melted down and recast to make a set of 8 tuned bells. The bells returned to Vancouver and were hung for change-ringing in 1906.
- Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria (8 bells installed 1936 with 2 more added in 1983)
- Westminster Abbey, Mission, B.C. (10 bells installed 1950)
- St. James Cathedral, Toronto (8 bells from St. James, Bermondsey, London plus 4 new bells to make a ring of 12 installed 1996)

Judge Edward Tavender, QC (1923-2000) - Father of the Bells

John Mendham



Judge Tavender (Calgary Herald Nov 11, 1961)

Born in Ontario, Ted Tavender accompanied his family to Calgary in 1905. He attended Central High School and graduated from the University of Alberta in 1927 with a BA and law degree. After many years in private practice, Ted was appointed to the bench in 1961. He earned a reputation, for clear judgements and sympathy for the under-privileged. Ted also offered legal expertise to the diocese, the ecclesiastical province and the national church.

He and Dorothy, whom he married in 1913, built a house in 1932 on 8A Street just above Christ Church, then out in the country. There they raised two children, Kay and David and lived the rest of their lives, Dorothy until her passing in 1968 and then Ted's death, in 2000. While their home and Christ Church were the centres of their spiritual and community life, they spent a lot of time at their Shuswap cottage.

Ted had a strong appreciation of the broader Anglican tradition and expressed this through his loyalty and generosity to Christ Church. He spent many years on Vestry and served as Rector's warden in 1945, 1946 and 1947. His most important contribution was heading up the 1954 renovation, when the church was extended towards 8th Street, the roof raised and a bell tower built.

Installing the change-ringing bells was his boldest vision. The bells themselves had to be ordered from England and parishioners then had to learn how to ring them (with the closest other bell ringers being in Vancouver). Ringing well into his 80's, Ted was Calgary's first Tower Captain. He took part in ringing Calgary's first six bells together on July 10, 1955 and the following year rang in the first half peal on the bells.

At his Celebration of Life (attended by ringers from Vancouver and Victoria), bells rang half-muffled, in honor of Calgary's first tower captain. A stained glass window in his memory, given by Kay and Ken Grove, depicts St Paul against a view from the family cottage in Shuswap and a car to recall Ted's love of motoring.

Only one of the current ringers, John Musselwhite, has rung with him.

Appendices

A. CONTRIBUTORS TO THE PURCHASE OF CHANGE-RINGING BELLS 1954

ABERCROMBIE, V.W.	ALLAN, E.B.	ASKEW, J.A.
BABEAU, W.D	BAKER, W.J.	BAKER, G. Allan
BATCHELOR, Mrs. D.E.	BEACH, Mrs. H.H.	BINGLEY, C.J.
BROADBERRY, Jon	BOWLES, J.T.	BROWN, D.W.
BROWNEE, Mrs. S.M.	BURNS, Mrs. John	CADMAN, Jessie
CAINES, R.T.	CAMERON, Robert	CAMPBELL, J.W.
CAMPKIN, E.L.	CANN, Mrs. O.M.	CARLISLE, R.C
CHAPMAN, M.H.	CHRISTIE, A.F.	COPE, Volney
COZANT, Lee	CRAIG, G.E.G.	CROSLAND, C.G
CRUMP, B.	CUMMINGS, S.J.	DALGLEISH, Mrs. Phyllis
De ROSENROLL, A.S.	DOWN, Mrs. A.F.	DREVER, A.P.
EGGLESTON, Mrs. M.A.	EVANS, J.L.	FAIR, Mrs. R.C.
FARNSWORTH, M.E.	FINESTONE, W.E.	FILTEAU, V.G.
FORDYCE, Mrs. Blanche	FORSYTH, T.D.	FUNKHOUSER, Mrs. E.M.
GARDNER. Dr. J.S.	GARDNER, Mrs. W.	GILBERT, Phyllis N.
GILBERT, Mrs. W.G.	GOODALL, Mrs. A.	GOODEN, Mrs. H.
GREGG, H.P.	GOULD, G.D.	HALE, F.A.
HALL, Mrs. Rosalie	HALLAM, Percy	HARKNESS, Mrs. Frances
HARVIE, Mrs. Eric	HESS, F.W.	HILL, Henry Bruce & Letitia Ann (Bell No. 5)
HILLS, S.E.	HOWARD, W.E.	HULBERT, J.R.
JACKSON, J.M.	JAMIESON, Mrs. J.H.	JOHNSON, F.H.
JOHNSTON, J.L.H.	KEMMIS Mrs. J.	KIDD, Mrs. Dorothy
KING, Mrs. W.	LANE, W.L.	LEGG, H.
LENT, Mrs. W.J.W.	LENT, Geneva	LITTLETON, J.W.
LOCKWOOD, G.E.	LOWES, Mrs. Fred	LOWES, Elizabeth A. (Bell. No. 7)
MACKIE, A.K.	MACKIE, Stuart	MANNING, F.C
MARTIN, H.J.	MATTHEWS, F.R.	MAYHOOD, Mrs. L. F.
McDANIEL, D.P.	MacFARLANE, Mrs. E.C.	McKECHNIE, J.S.
MACKENZIE, W.D.	MACLEOD, G.E.A	MACLUNE, S.N. & M.
McMILLAN, Ruth	McNEILL, Evelyn	McPHERSON, Miss Pearl
MENZIES, Mrs. J.	MOODY, Tom	MORGAN Mrs. C.J.
MUNN, Mr. & Mrs. R.S. (Bell No. 1)	NICHOLSON, H.G.	OLIVER, Mrs. D.J
OLIVER, Joan	PAIN, F.A.	POW, Dr. R.E
PRICE, Dr. H.W.	QUINT, Erik	RATCLIFF, F.J.
RICHARDSON, S.T.	ROBINSON, Charles S. (Bell No. 4)	ROWSELL, C.F.
SCOTT, Mrs. Fred	SELBY, L.	SHORT, A.F.D.
SINE, B.F.	SHOULDICE, Mrs. F.L.	SOLEY, Lillian

SINE, B.F.	SHOULDICE, Mrs. F.L.	SOLEY, Lillian
SOUTHAM FAMILY (Bell No. 2)	SPANKIE, Dr. W.	SPANKIE, R.M.
SMITH, Mrs. J.H.	SMITH, A.C.	STANFORD, Lorraine
STANSBERRY, R	STEVENSON, Mrs. J.	STEWART, Mrs. Alice
STURSBURG, R.	SUMNER, J.	SWANBOROUGH, T.W.
TAIT, M.V.	TAYLOR, W.	TAVENDER, Mrs. Ada (Bell No. 6)
TAVENDER, E.R.	TAVERMAN, G.S.	TIDSWELL, J.E.H.
TROWSDALE, Mrs. R.S	WALLER, R.E.	WELCHMAN, Mrs. C.L
WHITBURN, Mrs. A.W	WHITBURN, Mrs. W.F.	WILLIAMS, C.D.
WILLIAMS, J.D.	WILLSHER, Mrs. J.	WILSON, E.P.
WING, R.B.	WOLLEY-DOD, W.R.	WOMEN'S GUILD OF CHRIST CHURCH (Bell No. 3)
WOODS, Mrs. J.H.	WORRALL, G.W.	WRIGHT, Mrs. S.A.
YOUNG, D.J.	YOUNG, H.S	YOUNG, R.O.

B: CALGARY BELLRINGERS 1955-2018

Name	Learned to Ring	Rang Calgary	Notes
E.R. (Ted) Tavender	Calgary	1955-69	The original volunteers instructed by J. Nicolls of G&J.
Col. Doug Harkness	Calgary	1955-60	
Col. John Tidswell	Calgary	1955-60	
John Burns	Calgary	1955-60	
Dr. Hal Worrall	Calgary	1955-60	
Dr. Kathleen (Kay) Worrall	Calgary	1955-60	
Al Weir	Calgary	1955	Named in Ted Tavender's diary 1954-58 or the Calgary Herald item of Jan 16, 1958
Bill Spence	Calgary	1955	
Fran Harkness	Calgary	1955	
Betty Imrie	Calgary	1955-	
Canon Crump	Calgary	1955	
Wendy Egbert	Calgary	1955	
Bill Egbert	Calgary	1955	
David Tavender	Calgary	1955	
Fred Valentine	Calgary	1955	
Ken Grove	Calgary	1955	
Judy Hunter	Calgary	1955	
Dick Stursberg	Calgary	1955	
Cynthia Ross	Calgary	1955	

Name	Learned to Ring	Rang Calgary	Notes
Henry Beaumont	Calgary	1955	Named in Ted Tavender's diary 1954-58 or the Calgary Herald item of Jan 16, 1958
F.C. Papworth	England	1956	
Judy Midgley	Plymouth, England	1957-75	Moved to Edmonton then Victoria
Ted Clements	Leicester, England	1960	
Walter Cooper	Calgary	1962	
Denis Cooper	Calgary	1962	
Peter Watkins	Calgary	1962	
Lois Cutler	Calgary	1962	
Freda McQueen	Calgary	1962	
Mike Simpson	Lincoln, England	1963-75	Moved to Edmonton then Victoria
Pat Simpson	England	1963	
John Musselwhite	Calgary	1963	Boy Scout Ringing Program
Jim Drever	Calgary	1964	
Ian Howell	Calgary	1964	
Graeme McQueen	Calgary	1964-66	
Patricia Laycock	England	1965-66	
Wendy Foster	Sydney, Australia	1967-69	
Patricia John	Victoria, B.C.	1968	
Rev. F.H.W. Crabb	Devon, England	1969	
Jim Drever	Calgary	1969	
Andrew Bushell	Calgary	1970	Boy Scout Ringing Program. Retired due to ill health
Lesley Bushell	Calgary	1973	
Frank Birch	Calgary	1973	
Carol Guppy	Calgary	1973	
Claire Guppy	Calgary	1974	
Laurie Pow	Calgary	1974	
Steve Smythe	Calgary	1974	
Wendy Heimbecker	Calgary	1974	
Ruth Wooldridge	Knutsford, Cheshire, England	1975	
Geoff Williams	Liverpool, Lancs, England	1975	
Ann Williams	Ashted, Surrey, England	1975	
Martin Bumstead	Calgary	1976	
Gillian Rumsey	Calgary	1976	
Drew Moodie	Calgary	1976	

Name	Learned to Ring	Rang Calgary	Notes
Michael Hartley	Calgary	1976	
Diana Burgoyne	Calgary	1976	
Margaret Pugh	Calgary	1976	
Louise Novinger	Calgary	1976	
Gordon Pearce	Calgary	1976	
Windsor Viney	Calgary	1976	Moved to Waterloo, Ont.
Alan Ellis	Norfolk	1978-80	Moved to Vancouver
Mae Ellis	England	1978-80	Moved to Vancouver
Suzannah Moesman	Calgary	1979	
Gary Attree (aged 10)	Sussex, England	1981	
Alexis Hampshire	Calgary	1981	
Dave King	Calgary	1981	
Steve King	Calgary	1981	
Wayne Capper	Calgary	1982	
Sean MacPherson	Calgary	1982	
Stephen Brown	Calgary	1982	
Judith Berquist	Calgary	1982	
Sue Johnsen	Calgary	1982	
Robyn Williams	Calgary & Somerset, England	1983	
Do Dyer	Calgary	1983	
John Lund	Calgary	1983	
Val Cole	England	1987	Moved to Lloydminster
Marilyn Buller	Calgary	1989	
Sally Billinge	Cornwall, England	1990	
Marcia Epstein	Calgary	1990	
Sarah Wilson	Nottinghamshire, England	1990	
Stephanie Treloar	Calgary	1992	
Fred Thurfield	Calgary	1992	
Steve Garrett	Calgary	1993	Moved to California
Eric Bumstead	England	1993	
Liz Othen	Calgary	1993	
Lindsey Holman	Hampshire, England	1994	
Edgar Hulatt	Durham, England	1994	
Joy Haynes	Calgary	1996	
Blane Hogue	Calgary	1996	
Ross King	Calgary	1996	

Name	Learned to Ring	Rang Calgary	Notes
John Clarke	England	1998-01	Moved to Victoria then returned to Britain
Christine Clarke	England	1998-01	Moved to Victoria then returned to Britain
Kim Runnalls	Calgary	1998	
Rebecca Scott	Calgary	1998	
Paul Brown	Calgary	1999	
Elwyn Brown	Calgary	1999	
Emma Wilson	Calgary	1999	
Thomas Rutherford, Sr	Calgary	2000	
Thomas Rutherford, Jr.	Calgary	2000	
Monique Beaumont	Calgary	2000	
Dan McCowan	Calgary	2003	
Shona Rochefort	England	2003-08	Moved to Ontario
Michael Poland	Calgary	2003	
Karli Martin	Calgary	2005	
Kat Hammer	Reading, England	2005	
Guy Copeland	Essex, England	2006	
Saskia Noorduijn	Oxfordshire, England	2014-16	Returned to Australia
Tom Hinton	Gloucestershire, England	2014-16	Returned to Britain
Danni Hejralova	Calgary	2016	
James Hamilton	Calgary	2016	
D. Paul Smith	Gloucestershire, England	2016-17	Returned to Britain

C: TOWER CAPTAINS

1955-1957	Ted Tavender	1993-1994	Sarah Wilson
1958-1968	Judy Midgley	1995	Windsor Viney
1969-1976	Mike Simpson	1996-1997	Vacant
1976-1977	Geoff Williams	1998	Andrew Bushell
1978-1982	Andrew Bushell	1999-2001	John Clarke
1983-1985	John Musselwhite	2002	Lindsay Holman
1986-1987	Ann Williams	2002-2009	Robyn Williams
1988-1989	Andrew Bushell	2010-present	Ruth Lund (nee Wooldridge)
1990-1992	Windsor Viney		